

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation

Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Progress Report

Reporting Period: 1/2021-3/2022

Background:

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation developed a hazard mitigation plan to reduce risk from all hazards by identifying resources, information, and strategies for risk reduction. The federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires state and local governments to develop hazard mitigation plans as a condition for federal disaster grant assistance. To prepare the plan, the Tribe organized resources, assessed risks from natural hazards, developed planning goals and objectives, reviewed mitigation alternatives, and developed an action plan to address probable impacts from natural hazards. By completing this process, the Tribe maintained compliance with the Disaster Mitigation Act, achieving eligibility for mitigation grant funding opportunities afforded under the Robert T. Stafford Act. The plan can be viewed on-line at:

https://www.chehalis-tribe.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Chehalis_Tribe_HMP_final_FEMA_Review_12022020.pdf

Summary Overview of the Plan's Progress:

The performance period for the Hazard Mitigation Plan became effective on January 12, 2021, with the final approval of the plan by FEMA. The initial performance period for this plan will be 5 years, with an anticipated update to the plan to occur before January, 2026. As of this reporting period, the performance period for this plan is considered to be 30% complete. The Hazard Mitigation Plan has targeted 27 hazard mitigation initiatives to be pursued during the 5-year performance period. As of the reporting period, the following overall progress can be reported:

- 15 out of 27 initiatives (55.6%) reported ongoing action toward completion.
- 3 out of 27 initiatives (11.1%) were reported as being complete.
- 9 out of 27 initiatives (33.3%) reported no action taken.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide an annual update on the implementation of the action plan identified in the Tribe's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The objective is to ensure that there is a continuing and responsive planning process that will keep the Hazard Mitigation Plan dynamic and responsive to the needs and capabilities of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.

This report discusses the following:

- Natural hazard events that have occurred within the last year
- Changes in risk exposure within the planning area
- Mitigation success stories

- Review of the action plan
- Changes in capabilities that could impact plan implementation
- Recommendations for changes/enhancement.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Planning Team:

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Planning Team, made up of stakeholders within the planning area, reviewed and approved this progress report at its annual meeting held on March 16, 2022. It was determined through the plan’s development process that a Planning Team would remain in service to oversee maintenance of the plan. At a minimum, the Planning Team will provide technical review and oversight on the development of the annual progress report. It is anticipated that there will be turnover in the membership annually, which will be documented in the progress reports. For this reporting period, the Planning Team membership is as indicated in Table 1.

TABLE 1. PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS		
Name	Title	Jurisdiction/Agency
Kelly Edwards	Director of Public Safety	Chehalis Tribal Public Safety
Denise Ross	Director Wellness Center	Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center
Glen Connelly	Director DNR	Chehalis Tribal DNR
Misty Secena	Director Accounting Department	Chehalis Tribal Accounting Department
Miguel Santiago	Director IT Department	Chehalis Tribal IT Department
Harold Chesnin	Lead Counsel	Chehalis Tribal Trust Services
David Burnett	CEO	Chehalis Tribal Enterprises
Michael Postlewait	Facilities Director	Lucky Eagle Casino and Hotel
Calvin Bray	EM Coordinator	Chehalis Tribal Public Safety
Christina Rolfe	Quality Improvement Coordinator	Chehalis Tribal Wellness Center
Arick Burnett	EM Manager	Chehalis Tribal Public Safety

Natural Hazard Events within the Planning Area:

During the reporting period, there were natural hazard events in the planning area that had a measurable impact on people or property. A summary of these events is as follows:

- COVID Pandemic
- January 6th Flooding Event
- Cyber Security Threats related to Russian invasion of Ukraine

Changes in Risk Exposure in the Planning Area:

Coronavirus Disease 2019:

Emergence

COVID-19 was identified in Wuhan, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is caused by the virus severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), a new virus in humans causing respiratory illness which can be spread from person-to-person. Early in the outbreak, many patients were reported to have a link to a large seafood and live animal market, however, later cases with no link to the market confirmed person-to-person transmission of the disease. Additionally, travel-

related exportation of cases has occurred.

Transmission

COVID-19 is primarily transmitted from person-to-person through respiratory droplets. These droplets are released when someone with COVID-19 sneezes, coughs, or talks. Infectious droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. A physical distance of at least 1 meter (3 ft) between persons is recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) to avoid infection, whereas CDC recommends maintaining a physical distance of at least 1.8 meters (6ft) between persons. Respiratory droplets can land on hands, objects or surfaces around the person when they cough or talk, and people can then become infected with COVID-19 from touching hands, objects or surfaces with droplets and then touching their eyes, nose, or mouth. Recent data suggest that there can be transmission of COVID-19 through droplets of those with mild symptoms or those who do not feel ill. Current data do not support long range aerosol transmission of SARS-CoV-2, such as seen with measles or tuberculosis. Short-range inhalation of aerosols is a possibility for COVID-19, as with many respiratory pathogens. However, this cannot easily be distinguished from “droplet” transmission based on epidemiologic patterns. Short-range transmission is a possibility particularly in crowded medical wards and inadequately ventilated spaces. Certain procedures in health facilities can generate fine aerosols and should be avoided whenever possible.

Illness Severity

Despite the important concerns about case fatality rates, most COVID-19 illnesses are – and we expect will continue to be – mild, and most patients will recover spontaneously with some supportive care, especially children and young adults. Data from several countries suggest that 14%-19% are hospitalized and 3%-5% will need intense care unit admission. Mitigation Success Stories: (Insert brief overview of mitigation accomplishments during the reporting period)

January 6th Flood

On January 6, 2022 the Chehalis Tribe initiated a response to anticipated major flooding after the National Weather Service issued flood warnings for the Chehalis and Black Rivers. An atmospheric river brought large amounts of rainfall to western Washington. The flood gage on the Chehalis River near Grand mound crossed the Major Flooding stage mid-day on January 7, 2022 and then reached a peak of 145.21 feet early in the morning of January 8. The flood waters receded below flood stage by late afternoon on January 10. Flooding caused the closure of Anderson Rd., Moon Rd. and Howanut Rd.; thereby, cutting off all access to the main population centers of the Chehalis Reservation. Residents were cut off from outside resources for three days. Flooding also led to the closure of State Route 12, which is the main road to and from the reservation. Southbank Road, the only other access route was also flooded in the Porter Area. All displaced population’s shelter and food was set up and paid for by the Emergency Management Program.

Cyber Security Threats related to Russian invasion of Ukraine

On February 11, 2022 residents of Washington were briefed on the potential for increased cyber attacks from Russia due to the pending invasion of Ukraine. A meeting was held with tribal directors and advised of this increased threat. Tribal IT began evaluating systems and distributed anti-phishing notices.

Mitigation Success Stories:

The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and Continuity of Operations Plan were both adopted. Work has begun on the EOC checklist and Debris Management Plan. A bridge along a known flood path was rebuilt after a vehicle collision reduced the bridge to one lane. Ceremonial

Burning began again in small area of the reservation reducing known wildfire dangers in the area.

Review of the Action Plan:

Table 2 reviews the action plan, reporting the status of each initiative. Reviewers of this report should refer to the Hazard Mitigation Plan for more detailed descriptions of each initiative and the prioritization process.

Status (X,O, ✓)

(X) Project stopped no longer relevant

(O) Project is under current workings or waiting to be started

(✓) Project completed

Priority

(1) Is being worked on

(2) Is to be worked on

(3) Project stopped or completed

Timeline

(N/A) Timeline Unknown

(X) Project completed or no longer relevant

(~) Continuous Project

Table 2. Action Plan Matrix				
Action Taken? (Yes or No)	Timeline	Priority	Status	Status (X,O,✓)
Initiative # 1			Retrofit or move tribal facilities to better withstand impact from a natural hazard event. This includes structures within the floodplain, or areas impacted by flood events. This would include land acquisition and removal of structures to allow for open space and the return to natural environments.	
No	N/A	2	Work is ongoing, still need info regarding whether these efforts are still being pursued.	O
Initiative # 2			Evaluate and enhance the current capital improvements program for drainage projects to provide better flood control in known flood problem areas. This would include working with Grays Harbor or Thurston Counties as the Tribe deems appropriate.	
Yes	~	1	Work is ongoing, maintaining regular meetings with GH & Thurston Co. EM's, member of the Thurston County Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee.	O
Initiative # 3			Working with local, county, and state agencies as appropriate, seek project funding or relocation funding for roads with histories of dangerous and unsafe driving conditions, and those with a history of flooding, instability, or lacking safety guidelines to ensure safe accessibility to the Reservation. This is particularly important during times of evacuation from impact	

			from all hazards of concern.	
No	~	2	Awaiting more information regarding the current status on any projects concerning these.	O
Initiative # 4			Seek grant funding for acquisition of properties within high-hazard areas to help restore the natural habitat of the area/watershed.	
No	~	2	Awaiting more information regarding these efforts	O
Initiative # 5			Remove road embankment fill under Balch Road, which currently acts as a levee. This project would increase river conveyance during flooding and reduce upstream flood levels, while also enhancing fish spawning.	
Yes	X	3	According to the last update, this project apparently is no longer necessary due to this fill being washed out during the previous big flood (not one in January 2022)	✓
Initiative # 6			Conduct a needs assessment to determine logistical requirements for equipment and parts for wells, water storage facilities, purification systems, and water distribution sources to ensure for continued supply of water after a major event. This may include generators to allow wells to continue operations. Ongoing.	
Yes	3 years	1	Work on this is currently being updated	O
Initiative # 7			Replace U.S. Highway 12 bridge at Black River. The existing bridge is a multi-span, steel truss and concrete beam structure constructed in 1932 and provides important access for the Reservation between SR 8 and Interstate 5. Currently, the bridge and road prism constrict high flows. This hydraulic condition is causing bank erosion and bed scour, which prompted repairs in 2001 to protect the bridge piers and abutments. The failure of these critical components could result in loss of the bridge during a significant storm event. In addition to the possible loss of access, a joint Tribe/ WSDOT study (WSDOT 2005) found that erosive conditions resulting from the constriction likely are degrading existing Black River aquatic and riparian habitat, which is inconsistent with the Tribe's guiding principles.	
No	N/A	2	Awaiting further information regarding the status of this project, last update stated that the amount of work needed for work on the bridge was going to cost much more than the original estimate due to the way the bridge is situated at that part of the river and the erosion happening near the foundations of the bridge.	O
Initiative # 8			Continue to design and build facilities to meet or exceed seismic (or load) standards, including redundant essential equipment. Apply current IBC standards to all renovation or replacement of existing facilities, structures, and/or equipment.	
No	~	2	Currently seeking more information on tribal building codes & ordinances that directly relate to this initiative	O
Initiative # 9			Implement various activities that support mitigation efforts to	

			reduce the negative influence of natural hazards impacting the Tribal Planning Area and the watersheds as a whole.	
Yes	~	1	Ongoing, this includes community notices, education, social media among other outreach efforts.	O
Initiative # 10			Utilize data gathered during risk assessment to identify capital projects that, when modified, increase the resilience of the Tribal structures and conveyances to damage, or that allow a more expedited process for recovery from the impact of disaster incidents.	
Yes	3 Years	1	Research on previous flood events has found a lack in some data gathering that should be done in order to update risk assessments	O
Initiative # 11			Consider projects enhancing resistance of tribal structures to impact from hazards of concern, such as seismic bracing of equipment, piping and fixtures, removal of high hazard beams; increased load capacity from wind, snow, and volcanic ash; or access road reinforcement.	
Yes	4 years	1	Ongoing, some projects for this have already been completed (new bridge on Howanut, by Fisheries), awaiting more info on current status for other possible projects, more efforts are likely needed for securing & bracing equipment with tribal government buildings	O
Initiative # 12			Implement a recovery system to ensure maximum FEMA reimbursement for disaster response, repair, mitigation and recovery, which will capture and track damages sustained, emergency activities, associated expenses (mileage, supplies, expendables, outside vendors, etc.), employee time, and dedicated resources.	
Yes	~	1	Ongoing, the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan & recently approved Continuity of Operations Plan are part of this initiative. Recent flood event & COVID pandemic have shown the need for more tribal staff members to receive training on FEMA's Public & Individual Assistance Program processes	O
Initiative # 13			Utilize data from the current risk assessment to update GIS capacity and capabilities.	
Yes	~	1	Ongoing, this information also is something that needs to be maintained on a regular basis	O
Initiative # 14			Identify and train Tribal staff, youth, and volunteers that will be utilized for emergency management efforts. Training to be considered includes ICS classes for NIMS compliance, ATC 20/45, Disaster Site Worker Training, Emergency Response Training, and Damage Assessment.	
No	2 years	1	Due to the COVID pandemic, some of these activities had to be put on hold	O
Initiative # 15			Work with Tribal and local transit organizations to develop an exercise related to evacuation of residents.	

No	1 year	1	A Tribal Evacuation Plan is currently being worked on, the most recent flood showed a need for more coordination among tribal departments regarding evacuations and the roles on individual tribal members to understand the reasons for evacuating, along with their own personal emergency preparedness	O
Initiative # 16			Leverage resources and partnerships to train and exercise together to ensure continuity during real world events.	
Yes		1	Ongoing, currently working on ideas to get more tribal members involved in community exercises	O
Initiative # 17			Develop (or update) plans to ensure response and recovery efforts. This includes working with the casino, counties, and local municipalities to look at communications and interoperability issues.	
Yes	~	1	Ongoing, Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan, Emergency Management Plan, and Continuity of Operations Plans have all been recently updated and approved	O
Initiative # 18			Conduct public outreach on risk-reduction techniques for communicable diseases through public education campaigns which increase awareness of healthy behaviors, including during times when shelters are established.	
No	~	2	Ongoing, especially as it relates to the COVID pandemic	O
Initiative # 19			Consider developing programs and public outreach efforts which support community participation in incentive-based programs, such as FireWise, StormReady Programs, and the NFIP.	
Yes	~	2	Ongoing, work on possible programs to present to the community members has been delayed due to COVID	O
Initiative # 20			Adopt the Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan as an element of any comprehensive plan that the Tribe has developed in order to ensure linkage between the various documents.	
No	~	2	Ongoing, the newly approved Hazard Mitigation Plan update will serve as a guide for future tribal-oriented exercises & training	O
Initiative # 21			Utilizing data from this HMP, update the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to include all hazards of concern to establish management and operations during emergency or disaster situations.	
Yes	~	1	Ongoing, work is currently being done on this project	O
Initiative # 22			Develop a post-disaster action plan for all hazards of concern that addresses debris management, cultural/historical data gathering, substantial damage assessment, and grant management.	
Yes	3 years	1	Ongoing, work is being done on a Debris Management Plan	O
Initiative # 23			Consider codes and ordinances which positively influence the resiliency of the tribe from the hazards of concern, such as land use development; landscaping ordinance for fuel reduction;	

			building codes for minimum seismic stability; flood damage prevention ordinance to cumulatively track substantial improvements and damage, etc.	
Yes	4 years	1	Awaiting more info on what codes, ordinances, etc. the tribe currently has or has adopted that address some of this initiative	O
Initiative # 24			Secure funding to acquire generators to maintain critical infrastructure, including for water systems (wells).	
Yes	~	2	Awaiting updated info regarding these efforts	O
Initiative # 25			Raise Moon Road south of U.S. Highway 12 in a manner to improve emergency access during flooding and provide a second access road engineered to contemporary standards to the reservation during emergencies. This project would include smoothing the grade of the road to remove dips, providing a road shoulder, redesign of the Moon Rd/188th intersection and installation of appropriately sized culverts to allow floodwater passage.	
Yes	X	3	Since traffic access has been restricted for cars to use portions of 188 th Ave. SW, this initiative may no longer be necessary	X
Initiative # 26			Construct shelter facility for use during disaster incident. Facility can also be used as a warming, cooling, or feeding shelter during extreme weather events. Shelter should be constructed large enough to enable sheltering of citizens visiting the Tribal Planning Area, including Casino guests who may be stranded as a result of sudden-onset incident (e.g., earthquake).	
Yes	2 years	2	Currently awaiting info on whether this initiative is still in process or in need of review to see how realistic this would be or if more study is required to decide on what would be the best options for the Tribal community	O
Initiative # 27			Work with state to obtain spill response trailers to allow Tribe to respond to hazardous materials spills occurring in the Tribal Planning Area.	
No	2 years	2	There is no current info on the status for this initiative or whether it is feasible for the tribe to maintain or securely store response trailers.	O

Changes That May Impact Implementation of the Plan:

No major changes to the planning area have occurred since drafting of the HMP.

Recommendations for Changes or Enhancements:

Based on the review of this report by the Hazard Mitigation Plan Planning Team, the following recommendations will be noted for future updates or revisions to the plan:

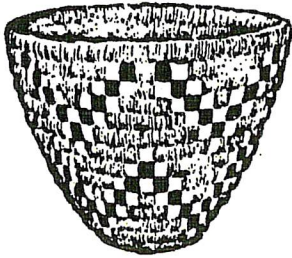
- History and culture sections added with consulting the tribe's preservation office and adding a representative from that office to the planning team.

- _____
- _____

- _____
- _____
- _____

Public review notice: The contents of this report are considered to be public knowledge and have been prepared for total public disclosure. Copies of the report have been provided to the Tribe's governing board and to local media outlets and the report is posted on the Tribe's Hazard Mitigation Plan website. Any questions or comments regarding the contents of this report should be directed to:

Arick Burnett – Emergency Manager
aburnett@chehalisribe.org
(360)709-1770



CONFEDERATED TRIBES of the CHEHALIS RESERVATION

Resolution No. 2022-038

Of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation

RE: Approving the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation Hazard Mitigation Plan Annual Report.

Whereas: The Business Committee of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation is the duly constituted governing body of the Chehalis Tribe, in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws adopted by voting members of the Tribe and approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and

Whereas: The Business Committee is responsible for protecting and enhancing the social, health, educational and economic well-being of Tribal Members; and

Whereas: The Tribe has jurisdiction over the Reservation and all trust lands in Indian Country; and

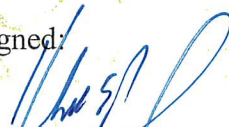
Whereas: The Tribe has adopted the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan a standalone plan; and

Whereas: The 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan requires an annual report, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, has been reviewed by the EMAG and needs to be adopted by the Tribe;

Now Therefore Let It Be Resolved: That the Business Committee of the Chehalis Tribe does hereby approve the Hazard Mitigation Annual Report for addition to the 2021 Hazard Mitigation Plan

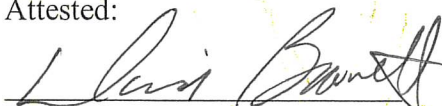
Certification: This Resolution, Number 2022-038, was duly considered and approved at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Chehalis Business Committee held on April 12, 2022, at which a quorum was present. The vote being 4 For, 0 Against, with 0 Abstentions and with the Chairman not voting.

Signed:



Harry Pickernell, Sr.
Chairman

Attested:



David Burnett,
Secretary

